

October 14, 2014

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

To Whom It May Concern,

The California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce (CHCC) offers this letter to express our support of AT&T's acquisition of DirecTV. We offer this endorsement based on the explicit promises of these two companies to fund a substantial post-merger deployment of high-speed Internet access across significant areas of California, including traditionally underserved areas which will offer many advantages for our members. Additionally, we encourage AT&T to continue to improve their Prime Supplier Diversity Program which will help increase procurement opportunities for Hispanic business owners in California. CHCC would like to ensure that AT&T grows their Suppliers Diversity Program for Minority Women Business Entrepreneurs (MWBE) throughout the state of California.

For background, CHCC has a network of over 65 Hispanic chambers and business associations throughout the state of California. Through its network of Hispanic chambers and business associations, CHCC represents the interests of over 700,000 Hispanic business owners in California. CHCC is the largest regional ethnic business organization in the nation that promotes the economic growth and development of Hispanic entrepreneurs and California's emerging businesses.

For the FCC to appreciate the full potential impact of this promise, it must understand California's critical need for Internet service deployment throughout the state. This need is felt acutely within the Latino community, which, according to new sources, earlier this year became the state's largest ethnic population and is settling in every part of the state.

CHCC exists to promote the advancement of Hispanic and minority owned businesses. One of our most popular programs is "Broadband Technology Training for Small Business." This programs offers instruction in e-marketing, use of social media and website development. For Latino small businesses, adoption of an aggressive marketing effort through high-speed Internet service can be extremely important to success. CHCC sees the expansion of high-speed broadband promised by a merger of AT&T and DirecTV as a double benefit: Latino businesses

will have more opportunity to promote themselves through an affordable, effective medium while the Latino population as a whole will benefit from more access to broadband and everything it connects us to, including Latino businesses. We look forward to partnering with AT&T to continue to offer this program to our members.

We know, thanks in no small part to Pew's Hispanic Center surveys on Latino Internet use, that although Latinos' overall Internet use has risen significantly in the past five years, it trails the level of Caucasian use. Put simply, our community is not at the level we should be. We know that broadband is an important tool for economic success, and we want to be sure that our community starts out on equal footing when they try to compete.

The AT&T merger with DirecTV, with its guarantees of enhanced broadband across California, offers a bright promise for the community, particularly those who still must depend on aging technology such as DSL. The broadband deployment to which AT&T has committed not only offers the promise of faster, modern broadband access, but we understand it could offer more Latinos the option to purchase bundled services of TV, Internet and wireless.

For all these reasons, the CHCC lends its unqualified support to the AT&T and DirecTV merger and we ask the FCC's approval.

Sincerely,

Alice Perez

President/CEO

California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce